

Serial No.: 10/083,284

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Art Unit: 1724

REMARKS

Claims 31-52 were pending in this application. Claims 49-52 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 31-48 have been allowed. No new claims are added. Thus, this application is in condition for allowance.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 49 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the teaching of Jackson in U.S. Patent No. 5,236,602 (Jackson).

Applicant disagrees that Jackson teaches a water system comprising all the limitations recited in independent claim 49. Nonetheless, to further prosecution of this application, Applicant has cancelled claim 49, without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 50-52 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the teaching of Jackson in view of the teaching of Gonzalez-Martin et al. in U.S. Patent No. 5,779,912 (Gonzalez-Martin et al.)

Applicant also disagrees that dependent claims 50-52 would have been obvious over the combined teachings of Jackson and Gonzalez-Martin et al. Again, there is no *prima facie* case of obviousness because none of the references provide any teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine or modify the respective teachings as proposed. Further, even if the teachings of the references could have been combined, the proposed combination would not result in the invention as claimed. Nonetheless, to facilitate prosecution of this application, Applicant has cancelled dependent claims 50-52, without prejudice or disclaimer, thus rendering rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

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Allowable Subject Matter

Remaining pending claims 31-48 have been allowed. Thus, this application is in condition for allowance because no pending claims stand rejected.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, which is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50/0214.

Respectfully submitted,
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